

Testimony of Ray Wills before the Energy and Technology Committee
On proposed *House Bill 6249 An Act Establishing a Moratorium on the
Siting of Wind Projects Until the Adoption of Regulations*
Thursday, February 3, 2011

Senator Fonfara, Representative Nardello, Senator Witkos, Representative Hoydick and members of the Energy and Technology Committee, my name is Ray Wills and I live on 117 Falls Avenue in Oakville. I am submitting this testimony in opposition to proposed House Bill 6249 An Act Establishing a Moratorium on the Siting of Wind Projects Until the Adoption of Regulations.

I believe that we need renewable energy in Connecticut. As a voter and a concerned citizen it is troubling to find out that the legislature is considering a Moratorium on wind energy. It was my understanding that the state supported clean energy which is vital to our future. Imposing additional regulations and a moratorium on wind is exactly the wrong approach for the state. While the federal government and state throughout New England are embracing green energy, the Energy Committee in Connecticut is considering imposing a moratorium. Wind energy is one of the best forms of renewable energy available today. We need to move to a green economy and encourage green technologies.

Wind energy will produce clean, renewable energy from the wind, and at the same time it will help to create jobs, stimulate the economy and provide much needed tax revenue to local communities and the state. The legislature should oppose any policies that discourage clean energy. There was a proposal in Watertown by a home owner to put a small windmill in their yard, and it was strongly resisted and eventually killed by the town. As a result of this not in my back yard attitude, today there are no windmills in Watertown which is very unfortunate particularly since there are plenty of locations that are windy and have available land in the town. Now it appears that the state is following the same ill advised, anti-renewable energy policies adopted in Watertown. This is simply wrong. Renewable energy must be promoted in Connecticut, not discouraged, or even worst eliminated in the state. Every day I read about another wind turbine that is being built in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. The time has come for Connecticut to embrace wind for the environment, for our children, for our future.

I strongly urge you to reject H.B. 6249 and to reject a moratorium on clean energy.

Thank you for your consideration.

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